

Jacumba Sponsor Group Corrected and Approved General Meeting Minutes

Of 01-31-2012

MEETING PRELIMINARIES

- Mark Ostrander called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM.
- Mark requested silencing all Cell Phones and Pagers and then led the pledge of allegiance.
- Mark led the Roll Call: Shirley Fisher (present), Howard Cook (present), Steve Squillaci (present) Mark Ostrander (present), and Pat Fauble (present). Mark established that there was a quorum.

OLD BUSINESS

- Secretary Howard Cook read the Draft minutes from the previous meeting of 11/22/2011. Corrections to the Draft Minutes were made as follows: Donor of funds for the Community Garden was changed to The Mountain Empire Collaborative. The cost range of an emergency generator was changed to read \$50,000 to \$60,000. Several minor editing changes were made. Mark Ostrander moved to accept the minutes as corrected. The motion seconded by Shirley Fisher. Vote taken to approve the minutes, five in favor, none opposed and no abstentions.

NEW BUSINESS

- Mark Ostrander opened the annual nominating and voting process for Jacumba Sponsor Group officers. Voting for the three officers was unanimous as follows: President - Mark Ostrander, Vice President - Steve Squallaci, Secretary - Howard Cook.
- Mark Ostrander led a discussion on San Diego Planning and Land Use "Pre Applications" for two new Jacumba area solar projects. One is a 300-acre BP Solar project adjacent to the planned Eco Substation and close to the Old 80 and Interstate 8 merge. The other is a 830 acre Amonix CPV solar (new technology 2-3 story high each unit) farm located between Desert Rose Ranch Road and Old 80 on the west, on the East 1/3 mile close to Jacumba proper on Old 80 and 75 feet from the top of the west slope of Jacumba Peak. Most of the discussion was about the Amonix project. After the discussion Howard Cook moved and Pat Fauble seconded sending an opposition letter to the County. The motion passed unanimously. Concerns to be included in this letter include: the huge size of the farm, 830 acres of current mountain and arroyo terrain to be turned into bulldozed scrapped soil, obliterated wildlife and bird habitat including the endangered Tricolored Blackbird, our water aquifer drawdown from new wells or town water supply, unproven CPV technology with possible night glow or reflection, probable humming noise, its overall large industrial effect on the adjacent recreationally oriented town, effect on the hot water spring and spa, proximity to town water supply and wells, excessive water runoff from scrapped - leveled soil, industrial character of farm visible from historic Old 80 etc. Access for Border Patrol could also be an issue.
- Mark Ostrander led a discussion about an application from the Shallal family for a hard liquor license at the Interstate 8 Shell station. There are currently 14 active liquor licenses in our area. Considerable discussion ensued. Most of it in opposition for the following reasons: Will serve mostly travelers on Interstate 8 resulting in highway dangers as people descend the gorge, plenty of liquor outlets nearby, under 21 age of current clerks etc. The Sponsor group voted to oppose the application.
- Mark Ostrander made a presentation on that portion of the Red Tape Task Force Reduction that proposed to eliminate or drastically curtail rural San Diego County Planning and Sponsor Groups as follows: The Board of Supervisors in December received the findings of a Red Tape Reduction Task Force previously set up in April of 2011 for the purposes of recommending ways to "improve project processing". The task force, made up of builders and developers, recommended that San Diego County eliminate the Community Planning/Sponsor Groups or place limits on them. The limits include: no longer covering members for Liability insurance AND having to pay a fee of \$750 for Appeals. Elimination of planning/Sponsor groups is a

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move meant to deprive us of a voice in the development of our areas and could be used to circumvent CEQA. The Red Tape Reduction Task Force operated quietly until some community members found out and forced the County to make the task force's recommendations public. The Supervisors will be voting on Wednesday, February 29th. Mark urged people to speak at the Supervisors meeting and to write the Board. People will have until February 28th to make their opposition known. Danielle Cook volunteered to establish a petition gathering process that allows people to petition all five of the Supervisors by E-Mail. The group thought that that was a good idea and encouraged her to proceed.

- Mark Ostrander passed out copies of the county's "Statement of Economic Interest" form 700 to Sponsor Group members and reminded them that the form had to be returned to Cheryl Jones by March 31, 2012.
- Revitalization Committee update by various Revitalization Committee members as follows:
 - Revitalization; Community Garden Project by Mark Ostrander – Mark advised the group that we are waiting for the check to start. The first request is money for fencing and irrigation systems. Boulevard fencing is already in. Second request will be for raised beds and gate. Garden will have to pay \$33/month for water-we were given residential rate. There will be some raised beds available that will first be offered to seniors and handicapped.
 - Revitalization; Lake Project by Howard Cook and Mark Ostrander – Howard reported that Dave Landman was still working his way through the Spa, Spring/lake and surrounding lands foreclosure process. February is the expected month for resolution. He also said that most of the decision-making regarding the Lake restoration would rest with Dave Landman and the Spa. The Spa foreclosure process in turn could affect this. In the meantime, local citizens led by Eldon, Clint, Tim and Bill had cleared away a lot of debris, overgrowth from the lake area and had cleared the lake trail. Mark reported that Dave Landman was planning to put in a pipeline to return excess Spa water to the spring area and the lake.
 - Revitalization; Community Lounge report by Danielle Cook – Danielle reported on the new coffee house/juice bar that was under construction in the space next to the laundry mat. It will be called the "Jacumba Lounge" Danielle has talked with Duane (coffee shop proprietor) about the menu, prices and discounts etc. She will be featuring them on her website gosansiegobackcountry. Org. Danielle had suggested to Duane that he give discounts to the birders from San Diego via a coupon in Audubon newsletter. The suggestion was well received. Lorrie suggested that Duane also give discounts to the border patrol, fireman and sheriff. Danielle said she would discuss that with Duane.
 - Revitalization; Murals-Dani Cook reported that she had done preliminary work on the costs. She reported that Dave Landman has hired a consultant to plan and determine a theme for the town. When this is complete she will move forward with the Mural project. Tammy has already determined the best public buildings for the Boulevard murals and is considering the theme for Boulevard community. Under consideration are horses? American flag? Local flora and fauna etc.
- Mark reminded the Revitalization Committee of their next meeting on March 6th at 6:30 to be held in Boulevard at the fire department training room.

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CORRESPONDENCE

There were no correspondence items.

UPDATES AND POTENTIAL ACTION ITEMS

- Border Patrol Update- Officer Cory Anderson-- A Community Watch meeting will be held February 7th at 6PM in the Boulevard Fire training room. There was a discussion about the pull out of the National Guard now scheduled for mid-February.
- Sheriff report - Deputy Jason Titus reported on a rash of break ins at vacation and vacant houses. Deputy asked for notification in the event of temporary absences.
- Eye Gnat Report by Bill Pape and Danielle Cook - they reported the following: The proposed eye gnat ordinance has been sent to the San Diego County Supervisors. It will be available for on-line viewing (Vector control Website) by January 31st. On Wednesday February 1, Vector control and Jack Miller of Department of Environmental Health and County Counsel will hold a briefing regarding the ordinance at the Highland Center at 2PM. Everyone is urged to attend. The Supervisors will be discussing the issue at their February 29th meeting and everyone is asked to review and send their comments to the Supervisors prior to the meeting.
- Boulevard, Jacumba, La Posta Fire Safe Council and Cert by Mark Ostrander – Cert training will be offered on March 23/24/29/30/31 at the La Posta Substance Abuse Center. Call Mark Ostrander to sign up
- SD Gas and Electric – SDGE has to bring SEMPRA up to code to the tune of \$60million. Cameron Durckel reported that the Sunrise Powerlink project was 60 to 90% complete. He also discussed the Eco Substation process for 30 day comment. Interested parties need to get on a list to be notified about any hearings. Cameron gave an update on funding requests and said last year's funds were allocated and he is working with the Public Affairs Department for open requests.
- Property Cleanup of fire hazard Non-compliant property notification is underway. There is a tri-fold flier available for property owner instruction. Seniors and vets will get assistance.

NON-AGENDA PRESENTATIONS FROM THE FLOOR

- Richard Edwards of Kamps Propane introduced himself and proposed conducting a propane safety briefing at the next Sponsor Group session. Mark said that he would discuss this offline with Richard. Richard was invited to give a presentation at the Fire Safe meetings held last Monday of the month. This February 27th the meeting will be held in Boulevard.
- Donna Tisdale announced a showing of a Wind Industry documentary at the Boulevard Fire Training Room. Those interested were invited to attend

Meeting was Adjourned 8:36 PM. Next Meeting - February 21, 2012 6:00 pm at the Jacumba Library

Respectfully submitted by,
Howard Cook-Sponsor Group Member and Secretary